

IMMORTAL WEAPON FANZINE

Issue #5



EXCESSIVE FORCE

statement of
PRIDE



FIRESTARTER

ADRIENNE

MONK

YO! CHECK OUT THESE HARDCORE LABELS



**ARMAGEDDON
RECORDS**

Armageddon Records, label by the homie Josh Howell. You know him by his many talented bands like Six Paths, Point of Contact, Contention, Arrival Note, etc. Armageddon Records is a new label from Tampa Florida, very young new label that not only puts bands that you love if you're from FL but also books shows in the area. Go check the bands under his label like Dogmatic, Monterey, Keep Reaching, Resentment, WithPaperWings.



This might be my faovorite hardcore label of recent times that isn't Daze or From Within. Scheme has been killing it with releases like Wreckage - Our Time and their upcoming release soon, not only that but their co-release of Collateral with Fortress Records is one of my favorite releases so far into the year. Go check Collateral. Scheme also put out the best hardcore comp Until It's Your Reality.



Fortress Records from Florida. What a label dude, really new label with only 6 releases under it but they're all bangers, don't know much about who's behind Fortress but they're doing an amazing job at putting kids into new hc, especially regular hc.

MONK

ixW: What's up! Can we get an introduction of who you are and the role in the band?

Frank Bach: Frank, I sing and write the lyrics and do most of our artwork

Scott Savarie: Scott, I play guitar

ixW: Intro questions always at the start. How'd you get into hardcore? What's your first hc memory and what kept you in this little thing of ours?

FB: A neighbor loaned me Green Day's Dookie cassette after school one day and I couldn't believe what I was hearing. I asked to borrow it and immediately had my dad dupe the tape. He wasn't super happy about it and said it was the worst thing he'd ever heard. Definitely had my nu metal phase, swimming Rollin' in the Hot Dog Flavored Water and then through a friend discovered books like Evasion and zines like Profane Existence that turned me onto the punk side of things. My childhood friend Nico had an older brother who would always share music with us and we would uncover new things together... loving anything we could find, from Lagwagon to Youth of Today to Terror.

SS: I got into punk first through skateboarding. I think I heard "Drink, Drank, Punk" from Anti-Flag or "Punk Rawk Show" from MXPX play at a friend's house when I was 11 or 12. From there I got into Skate Punk. It was also the same time that bands like Sum 41, Gob, and Blink 182 were on TV. I got into hardcore when my friend Mark who lived down the street from me showed me Blood for Blood. He also made me learn how to play My World from No Warning on guitar so we could jam in his basement.

Not sure what exactly has made it stick with me after all these years. I think punk / hardcore was the first type of music I started to discover on my own and because of that it's kind of like the root I always come back to. I love tons of different genres now, but I really appreciate when you can hear other musicians have a punk background, even if they're playing something completely different.

Best memory is hearing D.E.A.D R.A.M.O.N.E.S from Modern Life is War when I was 15. It gave me goosebumps and I listened to it like 100 times on repeat.

ixW: Talk to me about Monk, how did this band start? Is this your first project or do you have previous experience in other bands?

FB: Both Scott and I played in a band called Vicious Cycle that released some records on Deranged. Some of the other members have played in bands like Career Suicide, Attack in Black. Connor, our bassist, sings in a new band called Headspin that are really sick. For a decade plus, I wanted to start a new band but didn't know what to sing about. I'm not that angry, I'm a pretty positive person with a lot of good things happening in my life. I discovered mindfulness through my wife who showed me the Headspace app and that's when meditation came into my life.

Making music without a theme has always been hard for me, so when the idea of meditation and hardcore came to me, I felt like it was an itch I couldn't stop scratching. The band came from that sudden burst of inspiration and I couldn't stop until we had a demo which became the first EP. We had a record release and vinyl before we ever played a show. Kind of funny when you think of it!



Pics by tristan.bangle

lxW: Continuation of the previous Q, how did you find Buddhism and how it affected your life? Were you someone you didn't like before discovering it? Talk to me about your journey to this mindset.

FB: When I was in my 20s I was diagnosed with a thyroid disease and that feeling of being young and indestructible started to fade. I think for the first time, I had to acknowledge the impermanence of everything. Even though that can be a scary thought, it was illuminating in some ways.

I probably liked myself a little too much before discovering Buddhism. Naive, maybe too much pride, lacking self-awareness. That started to change when I spent time with former Buddhist Monk Andy Puddicombe. That daily practice and exposure kinda felt like the wisdom rubbed off a little (joking)... meditating with Lama Yeshe Rinpoche of the Samye Ling Monastery when he would visit California as well.

lxW: How'd ya like the TJ show my friend? Sorry about the people leaving, idk what's happening in our scene but it's been a current thing as of late, we're trying to fix that m.

SS: We honestly had so much fun. René was an awesome host, we ate great food, and I think we played a pretty tight set. The opener, Grayout, was also really damn good.

FB: I absolutely loved it. It was the highlight of the tour. We want to come back soon, and spend a lot more time in Mexico. We were also able to visit Budismo Tijuana the next morning and meditate with the group there. That was pretty special. What a beautiful country you have.

lxW: There's one or more members of Monk that are not originally from LA (I think), if that's the case with you, what made you move to California and how are you liking it?

FB: Scott and I are both Canadian. I've been in LA for 10 years and he just got here, formerly in SF and Berlin. We both work as designers in tech. Work and sunshine were really the main motivators to get out here, at least for me. The US isn't an easy country to immigrate to but I really do love being here for many reasons. Proximity to Mexico being one of them :)

lxW: Talk to me about this new EP "ROCK", a damn good EP in my opinion, very fast, catchy, and like I said, with a twist on hc bringing Buddhism in the form of Zen to it. Talk to me about the recording and writing process, what inspired the band to release an EP?

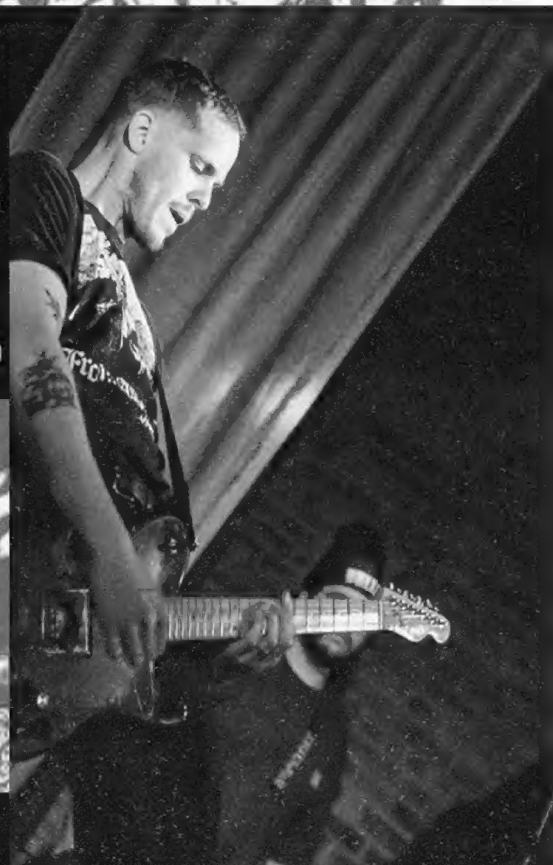
FB: We wrote the record remotely with some friends back home in Canada - the Romano brothers. They have a lot of music projects of all genres and I hit them up to jam some mid-2000s Toronto hardcore. I created a mood board and playlist and we got to sending some riffs back and forth.

"What would it sound like if a monk returned from a monastery and started a hardcore band?" was something we all aligned on.

We wrote the first EP in a few weeks at Camera Varda studios, and then built up the lineup of the band after that. Rest is history!

lxW: You guys just finished a tour with Dose, tell me about that experience of that tour, how'd you like it, any fun stories during the tour?

SS: Straight up, the most fun night was in TJ! That town is just so damn lively—feels like we could have wandered in any direction and had a crazy night. Otherwise, we're mostly pretty bored and just go to bed after shows.



photos by @shwn.mdn

MONK

2.8 - 2.12

FEB. 15 - TOLSON
FEB. 16 - OMAHA NE

IxW: Also, at this recent tour with Dose you guys played some new songs, can you tell me about them?

FB: We played a couple new ones. "Chains" and "Ride the Wave". Chains is about self doubt and how crippling it can feel to try new things and put yourself out there - the limits we pose on ourselves. Ride the Wave is about the human condition and how feelings come and go and that you just gotta ride the emotional waves until they pass instead of holding onto it. It's inspired by a DBT self-help technique.
We will be releasing a second EP, hopefully by mid-2024.

IxW: Would you say there's a difference between the Monk for previous releases to this new EP and the new stuff that's coming out?

FB: Totally. The new stuff is more moshy, more mid-tempo but also has some of that early Dead Kennedys surf punk energy to them. There may be a few surprises but you'll have to wait for it!

IxW: That's all! Thank you for your time and thanks for reaching out. Any last words, shout outs, announcements for new stuff? the floor is yours

SS: Shout out Mvll Crimes and Home Front, two of my fav Canadian bands at the moment.

FB: Shout out to you, Luis! And everyone who picked up this zine. Thanks for supporting independent music. Don't forget to breathe.

www.monk.la

Pics by @vickibmphotos



ADRIENNE

Pics by Todd Pollock and hardcorehotshoe

IxW: Yo, how are we doing boss, punishing you with intro Qs, so tell me your name and your role in Adrienne?

A: Yo! My name's Alfredo, I do vocals in Adrienne.

IxW: How did hardcore and straight edge come into your life? What's your first hardcore memory or thing that made you say "this is for me I want to know more"?

A: I got into hardcore through friends of mine talking about bands legit all the time. I was a nu-metal / scene kid growing up, so I kinda had a foot in but not really at the same time. I really got into hardcore in 2017, started going to shows, checking out modern bands, etc. Found out about Have Heart and Foundation, and it really made me think about how I approached stuff like drugs. Struggled for a while w/ alcohol and cigarettes and that shit gave me the hope to stop. Really got into hardcore after that more than before.

IxW: Segway to the straight edge question, what was the band that made you claim and what keeps you committed?

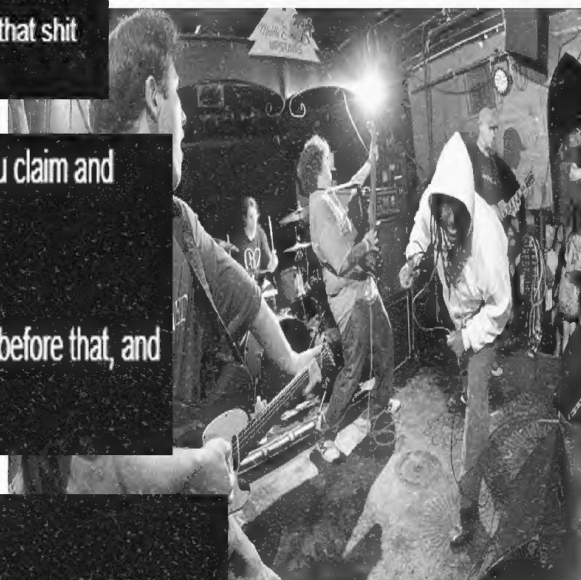
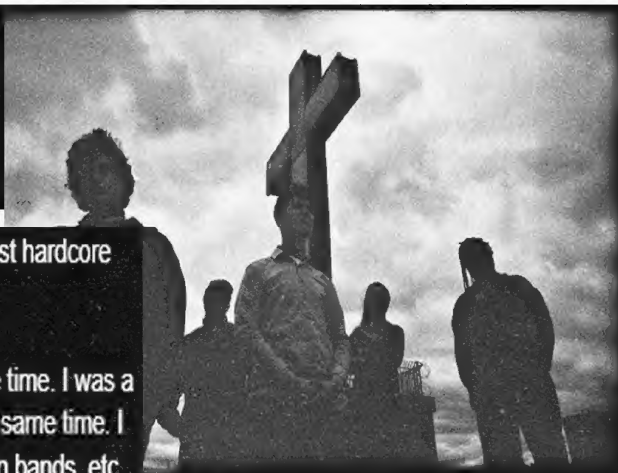
A: Have Heart / Foundation like I said earlier hah. Just knowing where I was before that, and how...dark those times were. Keeps my head on straight now.

IxW: Now, Adrienne talk. How did the band start?

A: They kinda just asked me to join. Pat (guitar player) asked me to join after all of their previous band (Divided Life) broke up, I said yes.

IxW: Adrienne from the start had a mystique around it, even before the self-titled was announced folks were interested in the band, that is RARE nowadays imo. Do you have any idea why that happened to your band? lol

A: Not sure really haha. I think it was just a combo of the name + people who've been going to shows for a long time and a debut of a new band since DL was done. People were excited for sure haha, very grateful.



IxW: I know next to nothing about Divided Life, I don't even know if you were in the band but I know some members are now in Adrienne, would you say that Adrienne is a continuation sorta speak of DL?

A: Sorta. Adrienne wouldn't exist without it, but the sound and approach were different. Tuning's the same, but the continuation aspect, I think the rest of them just wanted to move on from DL.

IxW: Adrienne's first show was the 15th of October 2021 just a few days before the Self-titled EP dropped. How did that first show feel? Were you nervous about it?

A: A bit! Not as much as I thought I was gonna be. Once we started, the butterflies were gone. It was an incredible first show. I had people walk up to me after and say that it was beautiful. People cheered! I never really felt that before. I've been in choirs and stuff growing up, so the feeling was kinda similar but, this was my OWN personal music. Incredible.

IxW: How did the connection with Lumpy from Daze happen for Summer's Beginning and the band to be on his label?

A: He just asked us one day and we were like yeah absolutely. We're really big fans of Daze and that was one of the labels that if they asked, we'd be down. Them and Words of Fire (RIP).

IxW: We'll talk about your latest EP in a bit, but right now I'm interested in the first release. How much time did the band put onto this debut ep, when it first came out it blew me away and was hooked from the start. Almost 3 years have passed so how do you feel about your first EP now?

A: Took about a year of writing and constant practicing before we recorded it. I still love it! It was my first time doing stuff in a studio and was super nerve wracking, but man, that EP is my baby.

IxW: Mass has experienced a lot of venues calling it quits or just not wanting to have Hardcore shows in their places due to dumbasses. What's a message you want to give new venues or venues that rarely put hc shows in Mass? In your opinion what makes a perfect venue?

A: Please realize that we are people just like you who just want a place to express ourselves, just like anyone else. Perfect venue is one without security guards fighting and grabbing kids, and preferably no stage but whatever works!

Pics by antigeroworldview, patspolaroidz



IxW: As a fellow anime man, give me your top 5 no order of anime.

Oh man.

Neon Genesis Evangelion

NANA

Ouran HighSchool Host Club

Serial Experiments Lain

Vampire Princess Miyu

Special shoutout to Naruto cause I wouldn't be into Anime without it.

IxW: The east has produced a LOT of good bands as of late, it feels like the east is having a peak moment in hc. What are some new bands that people should check out?

A: Right now?

DOLLHOUSE

FINAL RESTING PLACE

GIGAN

DISCONTENT

MELISSA

CROSS OF DISBELIEF

MEANS OF SURVIVAL

DEAL WITH GOD

UPONBROKENAPOLOGIES

HATE STILL BURNS

(LOTS OF NY BUT GOD DAMN, MAD GOOD SHIT)

IxW: My man you're an insane collector that at some point had an insane Undying spread. I'm sure you still have cool stuff around, what's a piece of your collection you'll never sell, whether anime, movies or hardcore related?

A: My Dead Blue Sky hoodie for sure. That thing will probably get buried with me. Boogiepop Phantom shirt too. The ENTIRETY of my Evangelion VHS collection is my favorite. That anime means so much to me, so that shit will never leave, period. I own an OG shirt too. Kinda obsessed...

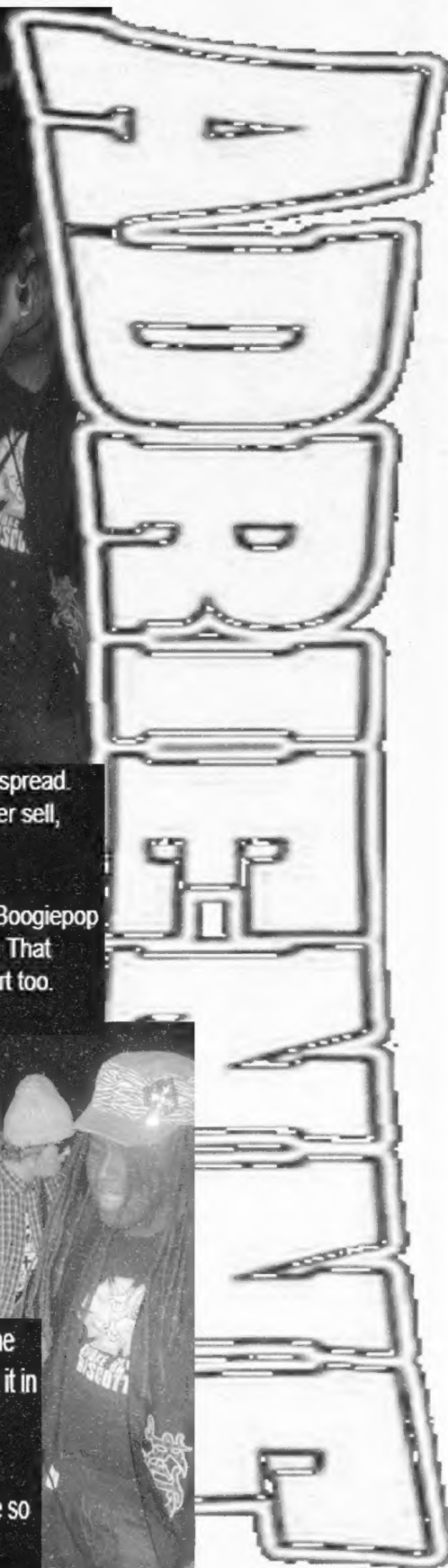
IxW: Alright enough banter, let's talk Summer' Beginning. 3 songs in 15 minutes. Good ass metalcore, talk to me about the writing process for this EP

A: We started writing it around 2022 and just wrote it kinda the same way. All of us in a room, practicing, racking our heads together trying to figure out how to make these songs work. First time I wrote lyrics directly to the music instead of writing stuff out beforehand. Super cool, was definitely way more stressful vs recording the first EP.

IxW: I know that you guys played Rebirth even before it got announced so seeing it as the first song was such a cool thing. Did you guys have Rebirth already written but didn't put it in the first EP?

A: Nah it didn't exist yet. The idea was kinda there but it was the first new song we wrote so when it was pretty much done, we were like fuck it let's play it live.

Pics by shikigami.gfx and eyelovecamren



IxW: The art for the two EPs is so sick and simple, it kind of almost tells a story being so similar, did you make the art? The aesthetic of Adrienne is something worth talking about so give me your main inspirations for the cover art of both releases and merch.

A: Hayden Daughtry did both of the covers! Isn't really anything like deep behind them, he knows 90s metalcore/hardcore so extremely well, so it was a no-brainer.

IxW: What is next for Adrienne my man?

A: Unfortunately for anyone who liked us, we're done. Sorry to say. Living up to the stereotype of metalcore bands not lasting long. Thanks to anyone who supported it while it lasted.

IxW: That's it yo, thank you so much for agreeing to this and for your time. Any parting words, shout outs, announcements?

A: Thank you for this!
Ephyra is my family. MAHC forever.
Go vegetarian/vegan. Love to the straight edge.

Bands: 6pm
\$20
\$15 w/ student ID

Pics by Eyeofthestorm99 and hardcorehotshoe

Commit

drienne
Vow
main

Statement of Pride

Email interview with Carter and Josh

IxW: Yo, thank you for your time boys, how are we doing? Can we get a brief intro of you and your role in the band?

J: What up, I'm Josh and I play guitar in Statement of Pride.

C: What's up bro, my name is Carter and I sing in Statement of Pride

IxW: As always we gotta start with the intro Qs, how'd you get into hardcore and straight edge?

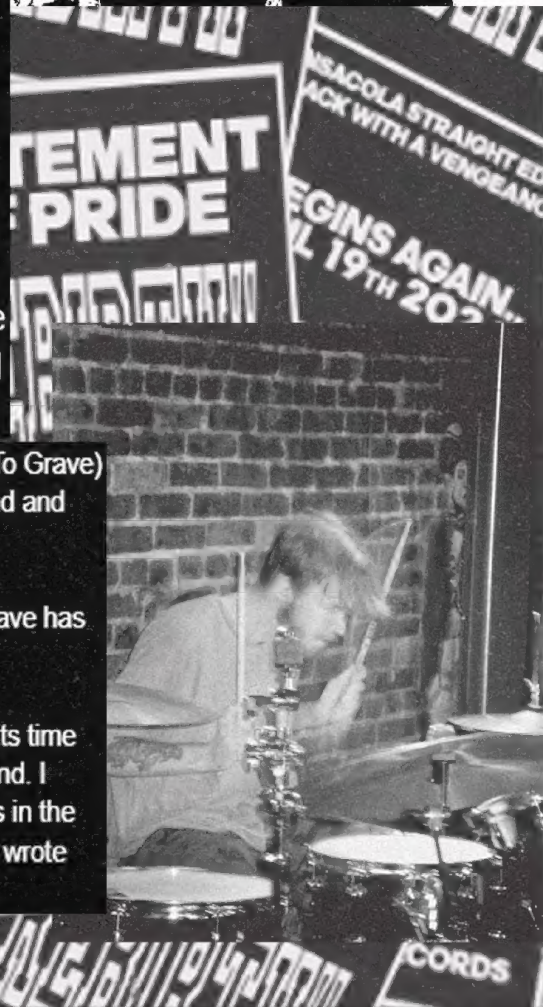
J: Ahhh well here is my very boring story of how pretty much anyone my age got into hardcore. Listened to a bunch of run for cover type bands when I was younger and found hardcore through that. I will also mention that I was kind of obsessed with Nirvana when I was younger and saw a mixtape Kurt Cobain made with stuff like Bad Brains, Minor Threat, and Black Flag on it so that was my intro to punk rock I guess. Very exciting stuff I know... I was in the military straight after high school for a couple years so I never really got to go to regular hardcore shows minus like random big shows in the cities where I was stationed but I moved to Pensacola Florida in 2019 when I got out and that's when I started going to shows here and actually being a part of a hardcore scene.

C: I first found out about both in middle school. Like most people now a days I definitely was into metalcore and shit like that in middle school, but I'd say around the summer of the 8th grade going into highschool I kinda shifted to hardcore and by mid 2009 or so I was all in on hardcore and obsessed with it

IxW: Question for Carter. You had a previous band that you fronted (Cradle To Grave) which I was a huge fan of, what made you not want to continue with that band and start Statement of Pride?

J: I know this question is for Carter but I just wanted to mention Cradle to Grave has never and will never break up...

C: Cradle, like most hardcore bands eventually, just kinda fizzled out. It had its time and place and we got to do a few cool things for the few years we were a band. I definitely don't hate the lyrics, but I was much younger and I think that shows in the lyrics. It was like cartoon in your face straight edge type lyrics which I mostly wrote when I was 21/22.



Pics by Youngblood records and chance_walis

IxW: Also, you guys signed with Youngblood Records when your EP *Out of the Ashes* dropped. How was the approach from Youngblood to you guys? Were you originally going to put your EP on *From Within* or YB was always the goal?

J: Around the time we finished recording *Out of the Ashes* we decided we wanted to do a different label. All of us obviously love *From Within* but it's kind of like Carter is the singer and runs the label so we'd like to separate them if we can. Carter and Sean Youngblood had somewhat of a relationship already so sending him the release to see what he thought about it was only natural. Sean is a fan of the bands that influenced us like *Conviction* and *Strife* so he was stoked on it. It's a huge honor being on such a legendary label with a guy as awesome as Sean running it so I'm glad it worked out. Me, Carter and our drummer Miles also played in *Beskar* together which was on *From Within* so it kind of felt like just putting our own bands out on a label one of us runs was kind of lazy in a way. That kind of contributed to us wanting to look for someone new too.

C: Sean who runs Youngblood has been a friend for a bit and someone I'd talk about hardcore with even before *Statement* was around. I did the demo myself, but when it was time for the next release I just wanted to ask him if he'd be into it and sent him the songs and he was down. Youngblood is a legendary straight edge label that's legit been around since the 90's so it means a lot for us to be on the same label that did shit like *No Tolerance*, *Iron Age*, *Desperate Measures*, etc.

IxW: You and Josh post a lot of *Outspoken* and *Strain* on your socials, I know *Strain* is a huge factor in the influence of the band so can we get a bit more insight on how much does *Strain* (and your other influences) mean to you two and the band?

J: I think *Strain* was one of the bands me and Carter connected on pretty quick. I don't know how to really express my appreciation of their music but I'll just say everything about them is something I want from a hardcore band. The riffs are hard and heavy, the lyrics are heartfelt, dark, and emotional, and the musicianship is beyond anything I could ever achieve myself. I think people will definitely see more *Strain* influence on this next release compared to the last couple. If there's one band we as a band can agree on it's *Strain*. Out of all the 90's bands in that realm, they have to be my number one. I'll say this too... a lot of people say they like the *Our End* EP over *Here & Now* which both are great for their own reasons. But nothing will come close to touching the LP for me.

C: When we started the band we specifically had *Strain*, *Strife*, and *Outspoken* in mind. I feel like you don't really hear much *Outspoken* in the finished product musically, but *Outspoken* and *Strain* are huge inspirations for me lyrically. I can confidently say *Outspoken* and *Strain* are two of my favorite bands ever and I think they both had an original take on hardcore at the time while still sounding like something the kids already knew and loved in that makes sense.

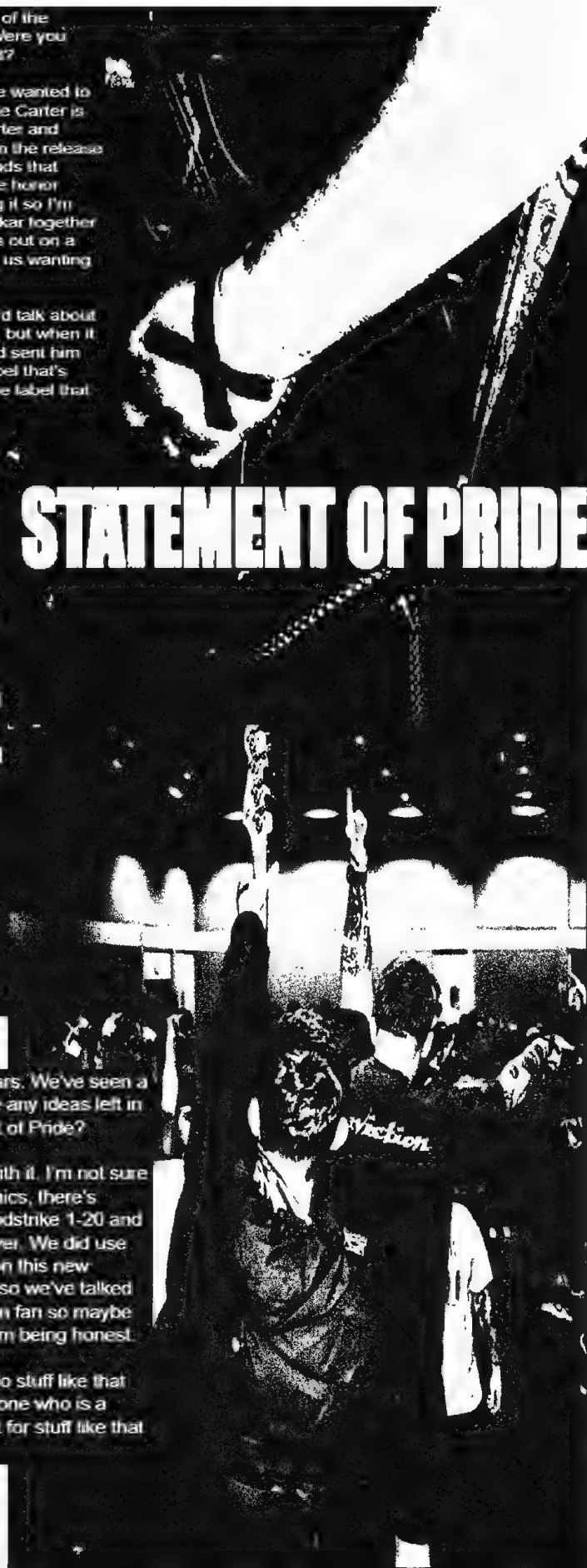
IxW: You boys love pop culture, especially comic books and *Star Wars*. We've seen a lot of merch, flyers, bands and art inspired by these topics, are there any ideas left in the tank for any mashups between comics/*Star Wars* and *Statement of Pride*?

J: We kind of just find cool images from stuff we like and try to run with it. I'm not sure about a *Star Wars* shirt for *Statement* but it's possible. As far as comics, there's unlimited possibilities for using comic inspired art. I recently got *Bloodstrike* 1-20 and every issue just has something you could use in zines, flyers, whatever. We did use art from *Daredevil* "Born Again" before and then we named a song on this new release "Born Again" which is loosely inspired from that comic book so we've talked about doing more *Daredevil* stuff. Our other guitar player is a *Batman* fan so maybe something from there too. We pretty much will just use whatever if I'm being honest.

C: I don't know to be honest, I feel like it gets harder and harder to do stuff like that without it being corny or just looking like the same old shit. As someone who is a hardcore comic book and *star wars* fan I will always have a soft spot for stuff like that though.

STATEMENT OF PRIDE

Pics found in *Statement of Pride*'s Instagram page



lxW: There's always brainstorming when making a new band and I'd assume Statement was no exception, what were some of the ideas of what the band was going to sound like before landing in this current sound/style?

J: So around the time the Beskar demo came out, Carter approached me and as I mentioned before me and him connected on a lot of 90s style bands and we just decided we wanted to do something that sounded like the bands we love. If I had to explain what we were going for we were trying to have hard parts like Conviction but staying fast like Strife. During the time we recorded and wrote the demo there were a lot of parts taken from bands like Indecision and Slugfest. Much like every band you eventually get to a point where you stop trying to sound like another band and you just focus on writing something you like and I think we've gotten to that point now.

C: See question 5 -Immortal Weapon Fanzine.

lxW: What are your thoughts on the current state of your scene in Florida? South Florida for instance, is booming with new bands and shows on what it seems every weekend. I know it wasn't always like this so I wanna hear your thoughts in the progression of your scene.

J: The Florida scene is growing for sure. It's a little different for me because I moved here in 2019 so it's not something I experienced for a long time at all. I'll say this though, every time we play cities like Jacksonville the shows just get better and better. Tampa and South Florida seem to be on fire right now. The struggle is really where we are from in northwest florida. Pensacola will have times when we have over a hundred people at shows or just us and our friends so it's kind of hard. We just keep trying to do as much as we can. I'm happy to see other scenes growing though

C: I think overall Florida is awesome right now. There's no doubt it's a lot of kids who are new to the scene, but that's how your scene grows. When I first started going to shows here I felt like Florida was definitely clown on by the rest of the US, but it's come a long way since then and I think Florida is definitely a place people put respect on now. It's also insane to me that FYA happens here and I can just drive to it.

lxW: Statement of Pride has had its fair share of merch that sticks out from the rest, my question for both is, is there a merch idea you want to do but you feel like it doesn't fit the band's style? Or you guys would do any merch for Statement?

J: I don't know to be honest. We would pretty much do anything that looks cool. Comic book designs are always the easy answer but we have to give props to people who help with designing stuff. Also Carter is pretty beast at photoshop now so that's a plus. The only shit we wouldn't do is like obviously goofy shit like our name in a metal font or something I don't even know.



of the ashes

IxW: You boys are definitely busy outside of band duties, I know Statement has done some touring but is there any collective desire from you and the other members of the band to tour more?

J: Yes I would love to tour more but I do work and go to school full time so it makes it a little hard. We did a lot last year with what we could in my opinion and I'm happy with it. We played two big fests and hit as many week-long and weekend tours we could...I'm sure this year will be more of that.

C: We definitely will be touring some more this year. I will admit we can't do everything we want due to having careers and school, but I think that makes us make the most out of the time we do spend touring and playing shows out of town. It feels special every time, which is the way it should be.



IxW: What's next for Statement of Pride?

J: We have 4 new songs coming out soon. We are finalizing the details so at the time of this interview might be too early for me to say anything. Also there are some other plans I can't say just yet but we will be coming to the Northeast at some point this year guaranteed.

C: We have a new record coming out on Youngblood April 19th titled "Rebirth". We'll be posting more info for that online soon enough.

statement of
PRIDE



IxW: That's it boys, thank you for your time, any parting words, announcements, shout outs?

J: Thank you for your time doing this zine. We need more people like you. I have no parting words.

C: Thank you for asking us to do this. Aside from the new record we'll definitely be playing more shows and doing some tours in 2024...stay tuned



Pics by Jeff Lasich (@starttodayzine)

FROM WITHIN RECORDS

IxW: Thank you for your time in this double duty interview boss, let's get started. How did FWR start? What made you start a label?

C: From Within started in 2019 while I was briefly living in Nashville Tennessee. Not to get too grim, but at the time it was definitely the darkest my life had ever been. My house had recently burned down and then I had to move away to a place where I really had no friends. I had the idea of doing a label for awhile and I desperately needed something to occupy my time with and concentrate on aside from just things like work. So out of that dark time From Within was born

IxW: What were, if any, some of the labels that inspired you to start your own?

C: I'd say the biggest influence was definitely Plead Your Case records. Me and Lennon met probably around 2010 originally and I always loved how he ran it/the vibe it gave. It also was good to see a friend running a label and knowing I can do the same and reach out for advice if I ever needed it. Lennon is still one of my good friends today and helps me out with stuff pretty often for the label.

IxW: Did you face any complications when starting this label? What was your main concern when starting FWR?

C: I think the only concern was like where the fuck do you even start. I had no idea how to make tapes or anything like that. I eventually ended up buying my own tape duplicator off ebay as well as a stereo to make master tapes. Once I had this I duplicated the first release which was the Burning Strong demo.

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IxW: I remember seeing your reissue of Vengeance is Mine on cassette, for the longest time I thought it was the first ever release of your label. What does Excessive Force mean to you and FWR?

C: So I actually got the name for the label from the song "From Within" by Excessive Force. Re-releasing "Vengeance is Mine" is definitely cool to look back on and I'm glad Dan from EF was immediately down for me to do so. I feel like From Within optically comes off as a post type label and that song is definitely the opposite of that lyrically, but when I was thinking of names I was listening to "In Your Blood" and saw "From Within" and thought that was a perfect name for a hardcore label.

ONE SCENE



UNITY

A HARDCORE COMPILATION

WITHIN PRESENTS.

D.T.U.

OF THE TRACKS



SC E M A S T H A R D C O R E

DEMO

XXX

lxW: Segway of the previous question, if you could reissue/re-release any hc record on vinyl, cd or cassette what would it be?

C: That's a tough question, but if I had to pick just 1 I think it would be Withstand - Light of a New Day. There's so many bands lost to the sands of time, but I think this is probably one of the best bands that falls into that category. I've said this in other interviews before but if you like bands like Magnitude, Envision, Statement of Pride then you 100% need to check this out. I actually tried to re-release it last year because it was never on vinyl, only a cd and this was the response I got - "Justin has passed away. Roger is a cop. Only time I ever talked to Matt he was super weird and christian. Kevin is my pal but he hates having anything to do with any of his old shit." - so it'll never happen, amazing band though.

lxW: There's a lot of labels picking up steam and some legendary labels still doing their thing, but in your opinion, what makes From Within Records different from the rest?

C: I'd say the biggest thing I feel happy about pertaining to the label is the atmosphere I've created around it. I never wanted the label to have a specific sound, but instead the bands have a specific vibe. I think my ultimate goal is for people too see a new band on From Within whether it be metallic, regular, whatever the fuck and just be like yeah that makes sense on From Within either way. Kinda goes back to the One Scene Unity compilation idea originally. I get people have specific styles they lean towards, but I think the coolest thing about hardcore is that you could listen to 100 Demons and Youth of Today back to back and it is still all hardcore music and still has the same spirit and origin at the end of the day. That's the idea I'm really trying to capture with From Within.

lxW: FWR has done what a lot of labels wish to do, put out vinyl, were you nervous about your first vinyl release under the label?

C: I mean I honestly don't know if vinyl ever would have happened if it wasn't for Sam at BBB. When I first started the label I was a lot younger and had no earthly idea what I was doing and the idea of vinyl seemed kinda scary to do. But when OSU1 came out my friend Alex who runs Streets of Hate hit me up and said hey my friend Sam said he'd front the money for you to press the comp on vinyl. He had never met me once in his life but just wanted to pay it forward basically and explained to me when he was younger someone helped him out in the same way, so for that I will always be indebted and thankful for Sam. After I did that I realized how really it's not that crazy to do vinyl and that you can break even pretty easily with regular sales and distro. So anyone reading this if you wanna start a label and ever have questions feel free to hit me up.

lxW: Can we expect another From Within Showcase in the future?

C: I'm happy to say the From Within showcase is happening in my hometown for the first time ever on May 18th. It's gonna be announced early March so if you're reading this there's a good chance the lineup is out already.

THE ONE SCENE UNITES IN THE PANHANDLE

SATURDAY MAY 18TH

FROM WITHIN

SPRING 2024

SHOWCASE

MAGNITUDE MALICE SEED OF PAIN

AT THE PALACE

ENVISION - WORN - COLLATERAL - DIMENSION SIX

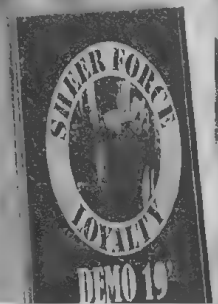
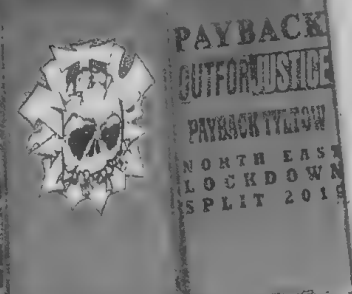
STATEMENT OF PRIDE - BURNING STRONG - MILESTONE

THE HANDLEBAR 319 N TARRAGONA ST. PENSACOLA, FL

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WITHSTAND

IxW: You've been busy with Where It Went (Easily my favorite thing), the FWR Podcast, the label itself, what else do you want to do under the FWR name?

C: Noooooooo I sadly do too many things already and I think in a way it causes everything to suffer slightly. Only so much time in the world and between the label, podcasts, zines, etc can get away from you fast.

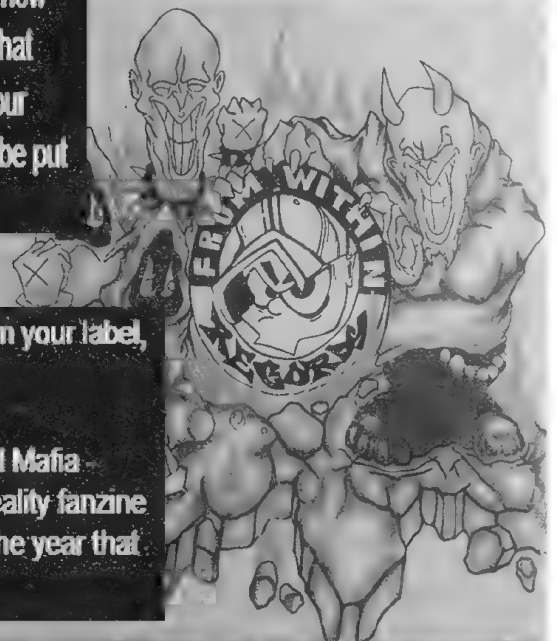
IxW: Do you have any advice for people wanting to start a label?

C: This might sound like common sense, but I feel like the biggest thing is to only put out bands you truly love, regardless if anyone else thinks it's cool or not. It's no secret hardcore for the most part is like highschool, people want to be perceived as cool and it might lead to them doing, or not doing, a band or something because of how they think people will perceive it. I can promise you the older you get the less that stuff matters in any way whatsoever. Put out your friends band, a band from your scene, and don't do it half assed. Good stuff takes time and deserves effort to be put into it.

IxW: Brother that's it, thank you for your time. Any announcements from your label, shout outs, shit talking, it's all welcomed, the floor is yours.

C: Thank you for asking me to do this. Shout out to the Hardcore Label Mafia Scheme, Daze, BBB, Rebirth, Streets of Hate. Shout out to Core of Reality fanzine and Between the Lines Fanzine. Got some cool releases planned for the year that will be announced soon so stay tuned...

light of a new day



statement of pride

REBIRTH

SHIT TO CHECK OUT, BY IMMORTAL WEAPON FANZINE

Anklebiter/Prevention Split: Both great fucking bands with tons of potential behind. Also both former IxW's guests so if you haven't checked it out, you gotta, and if you don't like it, fuck you.

xALLOFGODSCHILDRENx - An Endless Search For Clarity. This is probably my EP of the year so far, metalcore up the dome, straight edge from the Twin Cities which is a scene that it's up the rise. Check 'em out.

Utility - Demo 2024. Not much to say about this one but one thing: Regular Hardcore and it's been back for a while. Death to 7 strings and up, pick up a normal ass guitar and riff away.

xInstictivex - Take Your Life Back: modern italian metalcore in the same roots as Sentence and Purification. Shit is good dude. Vegan Straight Edge metalcore.

Hostility - Demo 2024. Some members in xAOGCx play in this band, I'm telling you, the kids in the Twin Cities know how to hardcore.

Chain of Hatred - Demo '24. Again, lots of good hc in the twin cities. This one is more aggressive hardcore, hard as shit, the people in this band know wassup. Straight Edge btw.



FIRESTARTER

IXW: Thank you for time on this yo, can we get a little intro of who you are and your role in the band?

G: Thanks for having Firestarter on your zine, my name is Gustavo and I do vocals for the band.

K: My name is Cole and I am one of the guitarists in Firestarter.

IXW: Intro question for you, how'd you discover hardcore and what made you stay in hardcore?

G: I got into hardcore around middle school while I was getting into skateboarding and all that other stuff that comes with being that age. I'd say I was listening to a bunch of punk and that's how I got into hardcore. I remember listening and seeing Cro Mags on video for the first time in a clip on instagram and the rest was history.

K: I discovered hardcore through punk rock. Growing up in Southern California and learning to play guitar at a young age got me to listen to the basic radio "Epi-Fat" punk like The Offspring and Bad Religion but as more knowledge became available for me to learn about more I quickly learned about bands like The Adolescents, TSOL, Bad Brains, and most importantly Minor Threat...

IXW: Segway from the previous question, when and how did you discover straight edge and what keeps you committed?

G: Ironically the first hardcore/punk band I listened to was Minor Threat and I had no idea they were straight edge or what it even was but the first ones that really hooked me were when I first listened to Youth Of Today and Chain Of Strength etc. I think this was around highschool for me and it's always just made sense to me and the people around me who care have always respected it and me for wanting to take the straight edge path.

K: I discovered straight edge funny enough before I got into punk and hardcore through wrestling and CM Punk. I was 10 years old and in November of 2011 growing up in a house with an alcoholic family member I heard the premise of what Straight Edge is and it always made sense to live by those principles. Also knowing a lot of addiction can stem from your bloodline. Straight Edge ultimately is the most important thing to me and has been for over 10 years now.

FIRESTARTER
DECEIT
HOLDING ON
SLAVE
SLAM-78
RECORDS

FIRESTARTER

FIRESTARTER
los angeles straight edge



los angeles straight edge



Pics by bloomxphoto

Pics by bloomxphoto

IxW: Been following Firestarter since the 2020 EP came out, it's been 4 years since then, how do you feel about the reception the band has gotten so far?

G: Thanks so much for being around this long to listen to our music dude. It's really appreciated and also it's been super awesome to just see our work come to fruition. We're all just super excited to play hardcore and we have fun doing it. We would have never thought we'd be included and be a part of all the sick bands that are playing today so it's just really cool to be doing this.

K: So for me I'm the newest addition to Firestarter what I can say is that from all the SoCal shows I've played with the band to the past tour we just did across the country it's really cool to see how many people have fun during a Firestarter set and to see what this band is growing to do. I got asked to join as probably one of the biggest fans of this band and from playing my first show with them when I filled in on bass playing with Gonilla Biscuits to playing with Diztort and New Brigade playing guitar. It's cool whenever there's a reaction and especially for the amount of people who sing along it blows my mind and even though I'm only just a little over a year with the band it's something that I am truly grateful for.

IxW: Firestarter has a pretty dope and awesome gig soon with 7 Seconds and Judge, I don't know if 7 Seconds is an influence to you guys, but everyone loves Judge so can I get your thoughts on Judge and the possible influence on the band? How does it feel that you're soon to be playing with one of the most legendary bands from NY?

G: I'd say more than half of the band in Firestarter's upbringing to hardcore was the punk way and I'd say 7seconds is a very crucial band to our sound and the way we write even if you don't hear it much but yeah it's crazy to be able to play shows with bands we have been listening to for so long and that have made hardcore what it is today. Judge is a super huge reason why we're even a band in the first place, NYHC in general is a big part in how we write our music and to be able to open for such important bands is a special feeling and we're very grateful!

K: Judge is an extremely important band for me. The New York Crew 7 inch was a record I listened to a lot when I was in 8th grade when I went through a pretty life changing experience because of someone's actions with alcohol that ended up flipping my world upside down. So that reason alone is why I have those hammers tattooed on my arm. It's a band that spoke to me when I was a kid and still to this day is a band that every time I hear that intro drum roll into "Bringin' it Down" it takes me back. It's an absolute honor to be asked to play with them and 7 Seconds.

IxW: This is something I definitely took from Armageddon Records and the singer of Demonstration of Power whose name escapes me right now. What's happening in your scene and how much you love your scene?

G: Shoutout to Armageddon recs and demonstration of power. I think we genuinely have one of the most talented scenes anywhere and it's super diverse and always pumping out music from different areas in the Los Angeles area. We're super humbled to be a part of it and be able to play a role in it. Shoutout to LAHC and everyone doing their own thing.

K: In Southern California there is a lot all happening at once and it's pretty cool. While there are definitely different "scenes" in Southern California it might as well all just be one. From Ventura County, Los Angeles, the I.E, San Diego, and Orange County. It's not a competition between bands for status and ego. It's people who really just want to see their friends succeed and have fun at shows. More and more young kids are starting bands and that's what at the end of the day punk and hardcore should always be focused on. It is a youth movement and while some kids enter and leave a scene the true will stay.



SOS RECORDING PRESENTS

IxW: What's the main motivator for Firestarter's lyrics and what is a short and long term goal for the band in 2024?

G: The writing process for lyrics is just writing about whatever I feel or how the song we're writing sounds like. I try to encapsulate the feeling in it. I write most of the lyrics for our band but on this new record we have coming out I'd say the rest of the guys helped me a lot on the material and wanted to push me and they put a lot of their own thoughts into my lyrical content. A goal of ours this year is to definitely put out our 7inch EP and just to grind more, play more sick shows and tour!

K: I can't really answer this because I don't really write lyrics but I give all credit to Gustavo, Jacob, and Juan. All of the guys are good at what they do and it's really a wide arrange of influences in my opinion. Floorpunch, Straight Ahead, Chain of Strength, and a lot more. In 2024 I think it's safe to say the goal is to have a new record out and to tour.

IxW: The split with Madhouse is DOPE yo, can we get a bit more insight on this split, what fueled the idea of doing a split and what were the bands or artists that helped in the making of this release?

G: Thanks a bunch! We are glad you enjoyed it and hope a lot of people rocked with it. We as a band had a bunch of fun making this record and it was awesome being able to work and put out music with Madhouse. It all just came natural as we're all just homies and it felt right to wanna do it. I think writing the split wasn't hard, we just do what we usually do and I think we all helped each other a ton. Glad we got to do it! (Madhouse come back challenge)

K: The idea for the split is something I wasn't around for so I'll leave this one to Gustavo. Shout out to Madhouse.

IxW: Los Angeles in general has seen ups and downs, whether is society, culture, politics, but I want to stick with sociopolitical issues since we're in hardcore, I've seen lots of homelessness and addiction around LA since forever (in videos and word of mouth), is this fuel to the fire of making hardcore have meaning?

G: I think with anything we all see something that strikes a chord with us enough to wanna say something or to speak up and write a song about it or do a band. I think we definitely see what happens around us and it's a big part of how it defines the music we write and what pushes us to talk about what we do in our music.

K: While I touched on addiction earlier to me it's more inline with straight edge in general for me. Hardcore can occasionally resonate with someone to believe "I don't think I need to drink, I don't need to use unnecessary vices to be a temporary aid of assistance". At the end of the day, personally, straight edge was a decision for my own improvement and it's not something I ever feel the need to push onto someone. It's cool to me that Firestarter is that kind of band. It's kind of the way Al Barile from SSD put it in his "The Choice" essay. The Straight Edge is there for those who want it. Change starts within one person's willingness to do so.



FIRESTARTER AND MAJOR PAIN

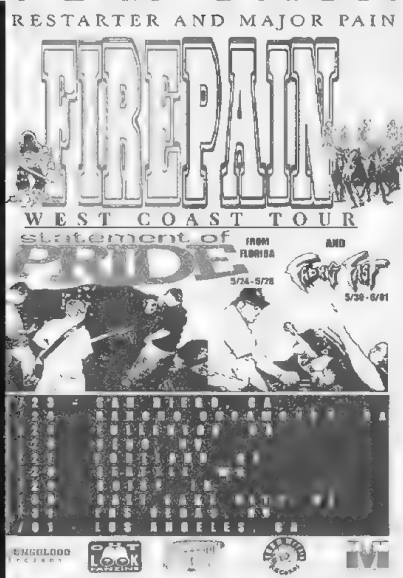
Pics by emphotos98

FIRESTARTER AND MAJOR PAIN

lxW: Some legendary bands have come from CALAHC, some active some not. What's a band from California or LA that you want to make a comeback and maybe play with?

G: I know Minority Unit just had a reunion set during sound and fury last year but that band would definitely be an awesome gig to be a part of if they ever did another. Soul Search came back recently after a long hiatus and it was great to play with them.

K: This is a really good question. So through many DECADES from Stalag 13 and Uniform Choice to Carry On and Internal Affairs to Discrepancy and Fury there's a bunch of history to pick from past and present. Firestarter playing with both Soul Search and New Brigade is a thing that I think all of us probably never would have thought would happen and it's crazy that it did. So to answer directly even though it's controversial and people have less than stellar things to say about this band I would have to pick Chain of Strength.

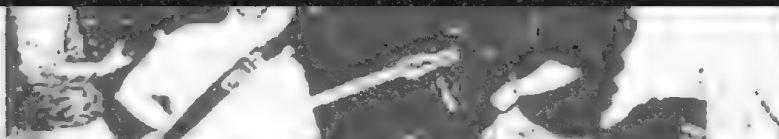


WEST COAST

lxW: What's next for Firestarter?

G: What's next is more shows, more records, more touring. We're ready to do it all and we wanna show everyone what we're up to.

K: A new record, a bunch of shows, and a tour.



lxW: That'll be all dudes, thank you so much for your time, any parting words, announcements or shout outs?

G: Thanks for all the questions Luis we appreciate your time and just shoutout to anyone who has supported Firestarter in any way all of our friends make our band what it is so thanks a bunch. Also your graphic design stuff is sick! We'd love to maybe do something with you sometime possibly in the future. Shoutout to the Straight Edge and fuck all the bad people.

K: Of Course. Thank you Luis for having us. I first have to thank all my bandmates in Firestarter for giving me the chance to be in this band. Along with that shout out to my brothers in Major Pain. Thanks to all my friends, family, and The Straight Edge.



photos by @punk_monk_ray & @bloomxphoto

YOUNGBLOOD
RECORDS

OUT
LOOK
FANZINE

MAJOR PAIN

YOUNGBLOOD
RECORDS

M.M.M.
RECORDS

EXCESSIVE FORCE

bW: Yo, thank you for agreeing for this interview man, glad to have you here, can we get a little intro of who you are and what you did in the band?

DG: Hey Luis, thanks for the interview. I'm Dan and I've screamed in a few hardcore bands and I ran Life Sentence Records.

bW: Changing the intro questions for you since you got an interview with No Echo in 2018 talking about early stuff, but I might repeat some of those Qs. What's your first hardcore related memory that made you say "yeah, this is for me and I want to know more"?

DG: There was a local club in my hometown of Aurora, Illinois called "Club Alternative." I remember going there in the 80's and seeing small local punk bands and it was great but I wasn't really hooked until I started going to shows closer to Chicago and getting introduced to bands like Sick of it All, Cro-Mags, and Slapshot. Those shows were truly dangerous but also very fun and welcoming. I met lots of great people at those shows that started me on my hardcore journey.

bW: What does straight edge mean to you now to what it meant to you back when you discovered it? Matter fact, how did you discover straight edge, what made you gravitate towards it and what was the band who sealed the deal with you to claim?

DG: I was never really interested in drinking or drugs but Youth of Today or BOLD really sealed the deal for me. At that time, straightedge was a big trend. If you went to hardcore shows you were either a skinhead (of the racist or non-racist kind) or straightedge. It wasn't that big of a decision at the time. It was just the way it was. As I got older, it was a statement or an act of defiance and probably a way of staying young at heart. It became ingrained in my life throughout the years and will be something that I'll take with me to the grave.

bW: What did the military teach you that you applied to Hardcore when you were in Full Contact and later on Excessive Force?

DG: I'm not sure if the Marines taught me anything about hardcore. If anything, I was an outcast in the military because I wasn't like everyone else. The military, or specifically the Marines, does not encourage individualism. You are supposed to think and act like a single organism. There is a bond between those who serve together and I gave up a lot of that to keep my identity and individualism.

IN YOUR BLOOD

lxW: How did Excessive Force start? I know you were in a previous band called Full Contact, but how was your transition between that to ExF.

DG: Full Contact started as a hardcore band but I was always pushing the boundaries toward making it a straightedge band. The guys in the band would go out drinking on the beach one night and the next day they would sober up, and X up for shows. It was difficult for me so I went about systematically replacing all the members of Full Contact with straight edge musicians. We played a few shows with a true straightedge line-up but it was never as good. The musicians had great hearts but were nowhere near as talented as the original guys. We eventually changed the name to Foul Play and played a few shows under that name, but then I got deployed to Japan for 6 months. This was about the time Firestorm came out and I took that as a sign and call to arms; when I got back, I met up with some of the local guys from the band Dead Wait and started Excessive Force. Initially, the line-up was in constant flux, so by the first tour (Summer of '93) we had lost most of the original members and had to limp along for the remainder of the tour. It wasn't until after that when we got a pretty solid line-up, but being a militant straight edge band takes its toll on people.

OVERCOME

lxW: How was the life of a military man in his 20s influenced by hardcore? Were there any other soldiers that shared your love for hardcore during those years?

DG: My life on base while in the military was different than most others. I spent most of my time off base at shows, record stores, or hanging out with my civilian friends. There were about 5 people on my base who were as interested in hardcore as I was. These were guys from all over the US and it was a real melting pot. It was nice to know someone always had your back but the way the military works, people come and go. I haven't kept in touch with any of them over the years.

lxW: As a dude in his 20s interviewing you, does it blow your mind or have any thoughts on your band and label being inspirations for young people in 2024?

DG: I think it's great that people still know what Life Sentence Records was. I put out some pretty good releases and some of them are fairly collectible. I'm always amazed when I get a message from someone who says that they liked certain records or that they liked my past bands. It rarely happens anymore but it's still nice when it does.

lxW: Any funny tour stories back when you guys toured for the In Your Blood record?

DG: I've probably told this story a hundred times over the years but when we were on the In Your Blood tour, we played about 10 dates with Vision of Disorder. I remember us both stocking up on roman candles and randomly shooting them at each other. We'd be driving down the freeway and they would be in front of us peppering our windshield with the roman candle balls or we'd shoot them inside their van when they stopped for gas or food. Amazingly, we didn't seriously injure anyone or burn down a gas station along the way. It was great fun.

Life Sentence
X X
RECORDS

lxW: Vengeance is Mine or In Your Blood? Give me your thoughts on why one over the other or which one is your favorite

DG: Vengeance is mine holds a special place in my heart because it was LSR#1 and the rawness of that 7" is something that can be cut with a knife, but the In Your Blood album was produced much better and we had more experience with how to record music at that time. I think it cost \$300 to record the 7" and \$1000 to record In Your Blood. It took 20 hours to record it. Everyone chipped in their \$200 which was a massive amount of money for some of the people in the band at that time who were still in school.

lxW: After ExF disbanded, you started Decontaminate, tell me about this band, was it your last shot at making a band, what was the goal you had in mind with Decontaminate?

DG: Excessive Force disbanded for a couple of reasons. When we got back from the '94 summer tour, some of the key people in the band had a shift in their musical tastes but also I was scheduled to get out of the Marines in December of 1995 and there was no way I was going to be able to afford to live in Southern California. We ended up calling it quits in the fall of '95 without much fanfare and things didn't end great between us. There were things said on all sides, and words from me that I regret, but that's the way it was. Decontaminate started when I moved to Salt Lake City a year or so later. The idea was to do another straightedge band, but not with the militancy of Excessive Force. The guys in Decontaminate were great, but like most straight edge bands, they are not built to last.

lxW: What's an underrated Life Sentence release that you want people to check out now?

DG: I think the Above This Fire album was fantastic and just came out at a bad time for LSR. I wish it would have been released a few years earlier because LSR was on its last legs in 2005. It was just really hard to accomplish anything as a small label. With all of the file sharing, album sales were at an all-time low and then there were always people looking to take advantage of small labels. Without album sales and without getting consistent payouts from distributors it was hard to have a roadmap for the future. I heard that they repressed that album elsewhere and that they have played occasionally throughout the years. They were a great band.

lxW: Was it always in your mind to have a label? Life Sentence put some killer stuff out that I listen to this day. What's your favorite release that your label put out?

DG: LSR started like a lot of labels I imagine. I remember sending our demo to all of the Southern California labels and not getting any bites so I bought a book from Maximum Rockroll on how to start a label with information on where to get things pressed so I just sent the DAT tape to Bill Smith Records and had them print us some 7"s. True story - that 7" came out before Excessive Force (at that time Xcessive Force) had even ever played a show and they were constantly selling out at local record stores. Before the Dead Wait guys came to me and asked me to put out their 7", I had never considered starting an actual label. The Xcessive Force 7" was a one-off at that point. When it came time to put out the Excessive Force full length, we were both equally adored and equally hated in Southern California so no labels were lining up to put out that album. It fell to me to do it, and I was glad to do it. I think some of the other guys in the band would have preferred a more established label to release it.



orce would like to thank: Tim and Joe A., Sean B., Brandon et, Keith, Bill B., Brett, Jeff, Jim, Dave, Mike, Nick, Red, Christi, EMPT, DEADWAIT, OUTCAST, XCHORUS, UNASHAMED, NITE, RESIST, FAR SIDE, Aaron and Jonas/Peaceful Nonexistence, everyone from STRONG INTENTION, Mike and NEXT STEP UP, the DUNGBLOOD clan, SAM BLACK CHURCH, BI OODSHED, Tim and V.O.D., ATEWAY, SLEEPER, PHALACY, KURBJAW, John Stanely, Garis, Rob Scott, Kyle OODSTONE, John BLINDSIDE, Jon Hearsay, Toby CORNERSTONE, ALLSAFE, Doug from D.C., Matt T., Tiffany Plain Jane, Dan from NH, Jesse from , Tony V., Rich S., Gary C., Kirk, Derrick NEGLECT, Steve Beyer, Joe Foster, Tony , Vinyl Solution, Zed records, Nathan Davis, Dave T., Jamie Cecchin, Rich Sklenar, everyone who deserves our thanks but was forgotten. A special thanks to Alvaro Warden for all the help. If only more people were like u. Also thank to Bill Brandon who played drums on tour. Thanks to those who have looked down upon us, judged us, and condemned us for our beliefs.

Ignite

Excessive Force

Dead Wait

Exempt

Caedes

Friday March 24, 1995

Cafe Nove

3474 E. Orangethorpe Ave.

Anaheim Ca. A whopping \$3

(At Orangethorpe & Chapman)

Show starts at six o'clock

lxW: Man, you and Greg Straight Edge still talk? The only thing I know about him is his name and his insane back piece tattoo. I remember seeing the Vengeance is Mine 7inch and went "woah that back tattoo is insane". Friendships in HC come and go, we all know that but how did you two meet?

DG: I think Greg reached out to me after the Inside Front compilation we were on and I ended up meeting in North Carolina when we played later that year. We stay in touch through Facebook but haven't seen each other in years. I'm sorta a recluse and I don't keep in touch very well with anyone. He's still straightedge and does a lot of work for animals which I really respect.

lxW: You mentioned this in the No Echo interview, and I'm a warhammer fan too, what's your favorite faction? The Emperor Protects btw...

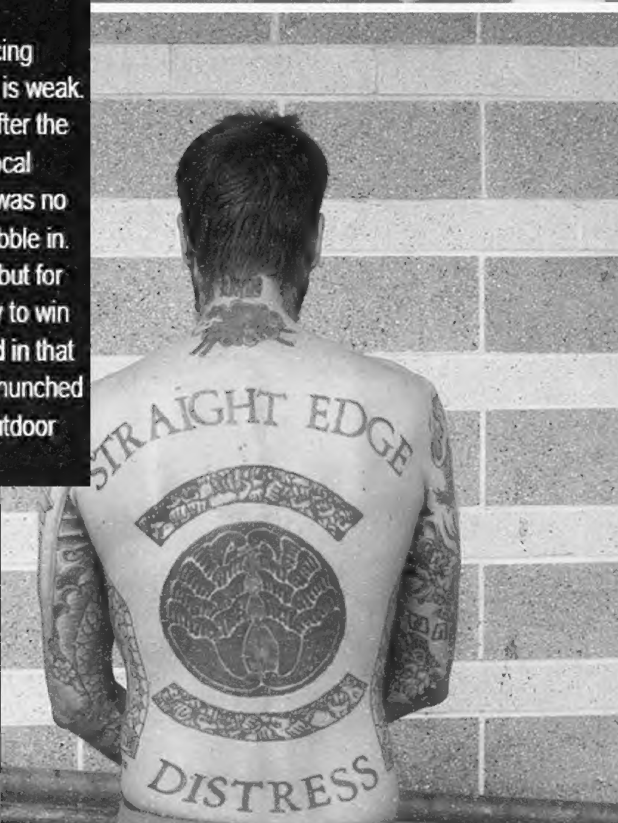
DG: Definitely Mechanicum for me. It's something about those people replacing parts of their bodies for mechanical components because they see that flesh is weak. That has always interested me. I haven't played 40K in years. I gave it up after the 7th edition and switched to Horus Heresy, which I enjoyed. Eventually, the local gaming scene switched back to the 8th edition when that came out so there was no one to play Horus Heresy with. So, I started playing Titanicus which I still dabble in. I love the lore and everything about the universe these games take place in, but for me, these games are like a historical event...if that makes sense. I don't play to win and there are just not that many people in the hobby world that are interested in that type of gaming. I'm a very casual gamer. Also, I spent way too many years hunched over a painting desk and I'm glad to get out and stretch my legs and enjoy outdoor hobbies these days.

lxW: Japan is interesting to me and you said you were stationed there, got the chance to experience the hc scene over there or was it strictly military duties?

DG: I went to some shows when I was over there but I didn't really experience "Japanese Hardcore" until after I got back and started the label. I got a lot of great letters from people all over the world in those days. I was introduced to some great bands through people from over there. I'd love to go back one day and meet them.

lxW: What is one thing you wish somebody would've told you about making a label?

DG: Be careful who you trust and don't put all your eggs in one basket. We were taken advantage of a few times and it sort of creeps up on you. You send someone records and they sell them and they ask for more but you're on a 60-days payment term with them, so you send them more and more, and then at the end of 60 days, you get stiffed out of some of what you were expecting to be paid for. I don't know how people still do it. For me, it was just so heartbreaking all the time. You put your time and money into a project and it either just turns to shit or you get stiffed for a large sum of money, and then you can't put your money into other things. If I was to do it now (which I won't), I'd do small print runs of multi-colored vinyl 7"s and just stay small, under the radar, and unprofitable.



IxW: Is there any Excessive Force or Life Sentence merch you still have around? Have you seen people rock your band merch or any band with your label logo on it in real life as of late?

DG: I still have a bin of shirts and some CDs and things in the garage. All the shirts are in smaller sizes. I tried selling them on Facebook a few years ago through one of the HC merch groups and didn't get any bites even though I was basically giving them away. I don't think I've seen anyone wear a LSR shirt in like 15 years (except my wife). I probably won't ever again. I hardly go to hardcore shows anymore. I enjoy the music but the atmosphere isn't hardcore for me anymore. Seems like people are more interested in throwing elbows into people's faces than the message behind the music.



IxW: There've been a lot of reunions from old bands these last couple years, the latest one I can think of is Undying, Prayer for Cleansing and Bulldoze, if it were up to you, would you want an Excessive Force reunion show?

DG: I've tried to get something going but the original members, other than Richie the bass player, aren't interested. There is some bad blood there. I've got a friend in Salt Lake City named Blake from the band Crow Killer who messages me twice a year or so saying that we should do something but it hasn't materialized yet. Message him and tell him to get his shit together! I'd love to do a show or two to memorialize Isaac Gollub but the chance of it ever happening goes down each year. Who knows, maybe this year will be the year. If it does, it will likely be a show or two in Southern California and/or Salt Lake City. I'm not getting any younger, that's for sure.

IxW: That's it sir, thank you for your time, patience and sorry for punishing you with so many Qs haha. Any parting words? Shout outs?

DG: Thanks for the interview, Luis. It means a lot to me that there are people out there who still care about these bands and the label and that it made some sort of impact in their lives.

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EXCESSIVE

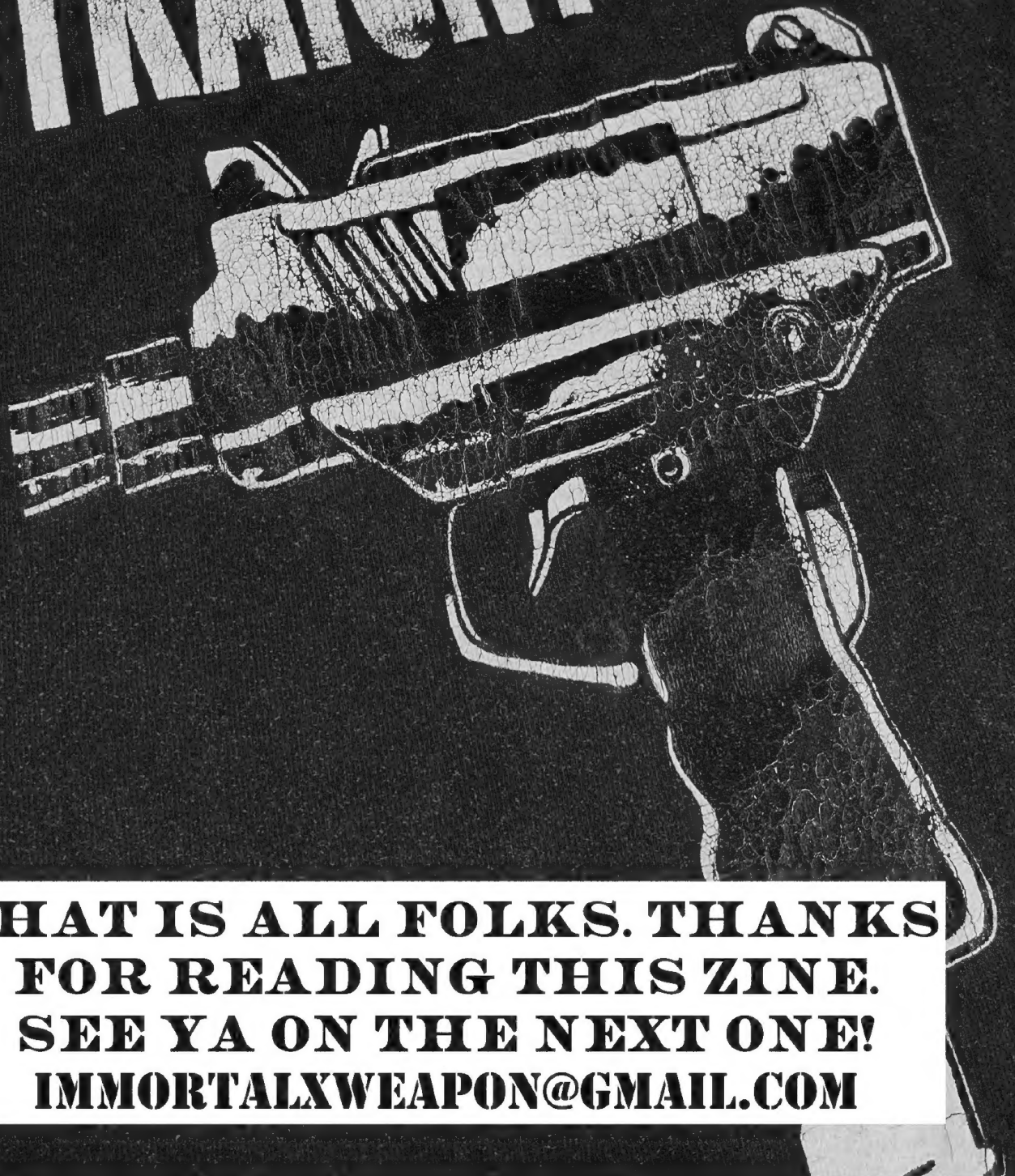
LSR5

No Excuses

RAIGHT EDGE

Ben G. - vocals
Billy H. - drums
Jeremy W.B. - guitar
Keith D. - guitar and bass

STRAIGHT EDGE



**THAT IS ALL FOLKS. THANKS
FOR READING THIS ZINE.
SEE YA ON THE NEXT ONE!
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